

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated May 16, 2007, and in accordance with the interview conducted on July 18, 2007. Claims 34 to 39 and 73 to 78 were indicated as allowable. Claims 1, 7, 11, 13, 19, 23, 25, 34, 40, 46, 50, 52, 62, 64, 73, 79 and 87 have been amended. Claims 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 17, 18, 20, 29, 30, 31, 44, 45, 47, 48, 49, 56, 57, 59, 68, 69, and 70 have been cancelled. New Claims 88 to 160 have been added. A petition for a one-month extension of time to respond to the office action is submitted herewith. A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is also submitted herewith. Please charge deposit account number 02-1818 for any fees which are due and owing in connection with this Response.

The Office Action rejected Claims 1-5, 9, 13-17, 21, 25-30, 40-44, 52-56, 60, 64-69 and 79 under 35 U.S.C §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,612,574 to Cole et al. ("Cole"). The Office Action rejected Claims 79, 81-83 and 87 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Cole in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,561,903 to Walker.

The Office Action also indicated that Claims 6-8, 10-12, 18-20, 22-24, 31-33, 45-51, 57-59, 61-63, 70-72, 80 and 84-86, would each be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

As discussed during the personal interview, Applicants do not agree with the rejections. Cole does not teach all of the elements of the respective claims. In particular, many of the referenced sections of Cole do not teach the corresponding elements in the claims as set forth in the office action.

However, as discussed during the interview, to expedite prosecution of this application, and in accordance with the indications of allowability by the Examiner, the following clarifying amendments have been made and new claims have been added as set forth below:

1. Claim 1 has been amended to include the elements of objected to Claim 6 (including the element of Claim 5); and Claims 5 and 6 have been cancelled.

2. Claim 7 has been amended to be consistent with amended Claim 1 and to depend from Claim 1.

3. Objected to Claim 8 has been cancelled and rewritten in independent form as new Claim 88; and new dependent Claims 89 to 91 have been added.

4. Claim 9 has been cancelled for consistency with amended Claim 1.

5. Objected to Claim 10 has been cancelled and rewritten in independent form as new Claim 92; and new dependent Claims 93 to 94 have been added.

6. Claim 11 has been amended for consistency with amended Claim 1.

7. Objected to Claim 12 has been rewritten in independent form as new Claim 95; and new dependent Claims 96 to 100 have been added.

8. Claim 13 has been amended to include the elements of objected to Claim 18 (including the element of Claim 17); and Claims 17 and 18 have been cancelled.

9. Claim 19 has been amended to depend from Claim 13.

10. Objected to Claim 20 has been cancelled and rewritten in independent form as new Claim 101; and new dependent Claims 102 to 103 have been added.

11. Objected to Claim 22 has been rewritten in independent form as new Claim 104; and new dependent Claims 105 to 106 have been added.

12. Claim 23 has been amended for consistency with amended Claim 13.

13. Objected to Claim 24 has been rewritten in independent form as new Claim 107; and new dependent Claims 108 to 110 have been added.

14. Claim 25 has been amended to include the elements of objected to Claim 31 (including the element of Claim 30) and with a clarification; and Claims 30 and 31 have been cancelled.

15. Claim 29 has been cancelled for consistency with amended Claim 25.

16. Objected to Claim 32 has been rewritten in independent form as new Claim 111; and new dependent Claims 112 to 115 have been added.

17. Claim 34, which was indicated as allowable, has been amended for clarity.

18. Claim 40 has been amended to include the elements of objected to Claim 45 (which includes the element of Claim 44); and Claims 44 and 45 have been cancelled.

19. Claim 46 has been amended for consistency with amended Claim 40.

20. Objected to Claim 47 has been cancelled and written in independent form as new Claim 116; and new dependent Claims 117 to 118 have been added.

21. Objected to Claim 48 has been cancelled and written in independent form as new Claim 119; and new dependent Claims 120 to 122 have been added.

22. Claim 49 has been cancelled for consistency with amended Claim 40.

23. Claim 50 has been amended for consistency with amended Claim 40.

24. Objected to Claim 51 has been rewritten independent form as new Claim 123; and new dependent Claim 124 has been added.

25. Claim 52 has been amended to include the elements of objected to Claim 57 (includes the element of Claim 56); and Claims 56 and 57 have been cancelled.

26. Objected to Claim 59 has been cancelled and rewritten in independent form as new claim 125, and new dependent Claims 126 to 128 have been added.

27. Claim 62 has been amended for consistency with amended Claim 52.

28. Objected to Claim 61 has been rewritten in independent form as new Claim 129; and new dependent Claims 130 to 131 have been added.

29. Claim 62 has been amended for consistency with amended Claim 52. Objected to Claim 62 has been rewritten in independent form as new claim 132; and new dependent Claim 133 to 134 have been added.

30. Objected to Claim 63 has been rewritten in independent form as new Claim 135; and new dependent Claims 136 to 143 have been added.

31. Claim 64 has been amended to include the elements of objected to Claim 70 (which includes the element of Claim 69) and with a clarification; and Claims 69 and 70 have been cancelled.

32. Claim 68 has been cancelled for consistency with amended Claim 64.

33. Objected to Claim 71 has been rewritten in independent form as new Claim 144; and new dependent Claims 145 to 148 have been added.

34. Allowed Claim 73 has been amended for clarity.
35. Claim 79 has been amended for clarity as discussed during the interview.
36. Objected to Claim 80 has been rewritten in dependent form as new Claim 149; and new dependent Claims 150 to 153 have been added.
37. Objected to Claim 84 has been rewritten in independent form as new Claim 154; and new dependent Claims 155 to 156 have been added.
38. Objected to Claim 85 has been rewritten in dependent form as new Claim 157; and new dependent Claim 158 has been added.
39. Objected to Claim 86 has been rewritten in independent form as new Claim 159; and new dependent Claim 160 has been added.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending Claims are now in condition for allowance.

An earnest endeavor has been made to place this application in condition for formal allowance and in the absence of more pertinent art such action is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response, Applicants respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLP

BY



Adam H. Masia
Reg. No. 35,602
Customer No. 29159

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